

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
ABSTRACT

Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – **Form 'C'** Proposal for Survey, Investigation and Drilling of **16 boreholes** with 4" diameter in an area of **4.7868 sq.km.** in Tadicherla Block-II, falling in Tadicherla Reserved Forest of Bhupalpally Division, Jayashanker Bhupalpalli District - for prospecting and detail Coal exploration by M/s. SCCL – Accorded – Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 39

Dated: 16-04-2020
Read the following:-

From the PCCF (HoFF), T.S. Hyd., Rc.No.20081/2017/FCA-1/PS,
Dt:25.11.2019.

ORDER:

In his letter read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana, Hyderabad has submitted a proposal under section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for **Form 'C'** Proposal for Survey, Investigation and Drilling of **16 boreholes** with 4" diameter in an area of **4.7868 sq.km.** in Tadicherla Block-II, falling in Tadicherla Reserved Forest of Bhupalpally Division, Jayashanker Bhupalpalli District - for prospecting and detail Coal exploration by M/s. SCCL.

2. Government after careful examination of the proposal and in exercise of the powers delegated to State Government in the guidelines issued hereby accord in-principle (Stage.I) approval to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana, Hyderabad for **Form 'C'** Proposal for Survey, Investigation and Drilling of **16 boreholes** with 4" diameter in an area of **4.7868 sq.km.** in Tadicherla Block-II, falling in Tadicherla RF of Bhupalpally division, Jayashanker Bhupalpalli District, for prospecting and detail Coal exploration by M/s.SCCL, subject to compliance of the following conditions:

- i. The User Agency shall be allowed exploratory drilling of a maximum of 16 boreholes of 4" diameter in an area of **4.7868 sq.km.** in Tadicherla Block-II, falling in Tadicherla RF of Bhupalpally division, Jayashanker Bhupalpalli District;
- ii. The prior approval of Govt. of India under Section 2 of FC Act for prospecting in this forest area under consideration is only for resource assessment and mapping and does not confer in any manner any right to the State Government to divert such forest land under Section 2(ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for mining purpose in future in favour of this user agency or any other mining company on the plea that forest clearance for prospecting has been granted;
- iii. (a) In case of proposal in forest area with vegetation density between 0.1 and 0.4 NPV @ 2% will be charged for the total lease area proposed for prospecting.
(b) User agency shall submit complete plan of operation for prospecting in the entire forest area in the mining block prior to start of work to the Nodal Officer of the State.
(i) User agency shall prepare a plan to plant 20 tall trees per bore-hole area. The cost of preparation of plan and plantation shall be borne by the user agency. State Government shall ensure that the plants are planted on abandoned bore-hole area or degraded forest land, as per prescription of working plan.

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- iv. User agency shall seek permission of concerned Forest Divisional Officer/ District Forest Officer before entering into the forest area and borehole shall be dug with prior permission of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer and also furnish detailed report thereof on completion of the project;
- v. The User Agency shall fill and close the boreholes with soil and boulders after completing the drilling to the satisfaction of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer, to avoid any sort of misshapen in and around the boreholes drilled;
- vi. Any equipment's/ machinery used for drilling work shall be removed immediately after completion of work;
- vii. The User Agency shall be responsible for any loss to the flora/fauna in the surroundings. Adequate measures shall be taken by the user agency to ensure that prospecting activities do not harm the wildlife in the area. To minimize disturbance to the wildlife, user agency shall take all possible measures to minimize noise during prospecting operations and halt the prospecting activities during night and during such periods in the day as will be advised by the Chief Wildlife Warden. Any damage done in this regard shall be compensated by the user agency from the project cost as per assessment of the concerned Forest Divisional Officer/ District Forest Officer;
- viii. The User Agency shall protect the natural tree growth in the surrounding areas;
- ix. No tree or forest growth shall be felled or damaged during the course of survey, as per the undertaking furnished by User Agency. Project activities shall be restricted to clearing of bushes and lopping of tree branches if any for the purpose of site preparation;
- x. No labour camp or construction of structures shall be established on the forest land during the period of survey for prospecting;
- xi. No fresh/ temporary formation of road shall be taken up for transportation of the equipment in the forest land for carrying out the proposed work. The user agency shall use the existing tracks and paths to reach the borehole location for the purpose of this work. The area used for path during the prospecting work shall be restored to its original status of forest after completion of prospecting work;
- xii. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;
- xiii. Work should be carried out during day time only i.e., from 6.00 am to 6.00 pm;
- xiv. The Borehole locations as well as the diameter and number boreholes of the approval shall not be changed without prior approval of Competent authority;
- xv. The User Agency shall submit complete plan of operations for prospecting in the forest area to the concerned forest officers before start of work;
- xvi. The permission to conduct survey / investigation / drilling of bore holes shall neither ipso facto imply any commitment on the part of Forest Department / State Government / Central Government for diversion of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 nor confer any other entitlements on forest land in future;

- xvii. The samples collected during the prospecting shall be used purely for investigation purposes and shall in no case be used for trade or commerce purpose;
- xviii. The State Forest Department shall plant 20 tall trees per Borehole area to maintain the green cover from the amount to be realized from the user agency, as per the scheme prepared by the forest department, in the planting site identified for this purpose preferably in the surrounding degraded forest area. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided;
- xix. Any other conditions as may be imposed by the State Forest Department during the execution of work in the interest of protection of Forests, should be attended at the project cost;
- xx. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11-42/2017-FC dated 29/01/2018;
- xxi. In case of violations of conditions by the user agency, the permission for prospecting of minerals shall be suspended by the concerned Divisional Forest Officer. Further it shall be enquired by the Nodal Officer (FCA) of the State Government and report to be submitted to the concerned Regional Office for appropriate action;
- xxii. The user agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the MoEF&CC Guidelines F. No. 11-96/2009-FC dated 4th July, 2014 issued by the Ministry regarding drilling in the forest land;
- xxiii. The State Government and user agency shall comply the provisions of all the Acts, Rules, Regulations, guidelines, NGT order & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad, is therefore directed to take further necessary action accordingly in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

DR. RAJAT KUMAR
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana State, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Conservator of Forests, Warangal Division, Telangana State.

The District Forest Officer, Jayashanker Bhupalpalli.

The Forest Divisional Officer, Bhupalpalli.

The Chairman & Managing Director, Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Singareni Bhavan Red Hills Hyderabad.

SC.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER